

CLAIMS

1. Carbohydrate mixtures for dietetic food products and pharmaceuticals containing several carbohydrates, characterized in that they contain or consist of two different, substantially soluble carbohydrate components A and B, which remain undigested in the gastrointestinal tract and enter the large intestine without being resorbed, that the carbohydrate component A is composed of at least one monosaccharide or of at least one oligosaccharide (disaccharide to hexasaccharide) or of a mixture of two or of more of these saccharides, that the carbohydrate component B is composed of one polysaccharide (from heptasaccharide onwards) or of a mixture of two or of more polysaccharides, that the carbohydrate component A = 5 to 95 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B = 5 to 95 weight percent of the sum of the carbohydrate components A + B (= 100 weight percent), and that at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B have a prebiotic effect.
2. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 1, characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides, which constitute the carbohydrate component A, have a different structure than the carbohydrates / saccharides, which constitute the carbohydrate component B.
3. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B promote lactic acid bacteria and/or are bifidogenic.
4. Carbohydrate mixtures according to one of claims 1 to 3,

characterized in that the weight percent of the carbohydrate component A is higher than the weight percent of the carbohydrate component B.

- 5 5. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 4,
characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises 95
to 60 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises 5 to
40 weight percent, with $A + B = 100$ weight percent.
- 10 6. Carbohydrate mixtures according to claim 5,
characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises
about 90 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises
about 10 weight percent.
- 15 7. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,
characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides of the
carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at
the α 1-4 and/or α 1-6 position.
- 20 8. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,
characterized in that the carbohydrates / saccharides of the
carbohydrate component B are composed of a maximum of up to 100
monosaccharide units.
- 25 9. Carbohydrate mixtures according to *claim 1* ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,
characterized in that at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80
to 100 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the
carbohydrate component A belong to the galacto-oligosaccharide group
and at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80 to 100 weight percent
30 of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component B
belong to the fructo-polysaccharide group.

10. Carbohydrate mixtures according to ^{claim 1} ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,
characterized in that, apart from the carbohydrates/saccharides of
the carbohydrate components A and B, they contain an insoluble
5 carbohydrate or a soluble and digestible carbohydrate or a mixture of one
or more of these carbohydrates.
11. A dietetical or pharmaceutical composition containing a carbohydrate
mixture according to ^{claim 1} ~~any one of the preceding claims~~.
12. The use of carbohydrate mixtures according to ^{claim 1} ~~any one of the preceding~~
claims 1 to 10 for promoting the flora of the large intestine in humans, for
promoting the growth of lactic acid bacteria, for use in infant formulas or
for the production of infant formulas.

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